

MINUTES
SPECIAL WORKSESSION/ROUNDTABLE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA
CONFERENCE ROOM 190, YUMA CITY HALL
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA
May 18, 2010
3:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Krieger called the City Council meeting to order.

Councilmembers Present: Stuart, Mendoza, Beeson, McClendon (arrived at 3:24 p.m.),
Brooks-Gurrola, Johnson and Mayor Krieger
Councilmembers Absent: none
Staffmembers Present: City Administrator, Greg Wilkinson
Director of Finance, Pat Wicks
Various Department Heads or their representative
City Attorney, Steven W. Moore
Deputy City Clerk, Lynda L. Bushong

I. ANIMAL CONTROL

Wilkinson updated the City Council on the issue of animal control.

- \$400,000 has been allocated to animal control in the budget.
 - The Humane Society of Yuma (HSOY) has stated they cannot continue services at this amount.
- Situation presents opportunity to review current practices and ordinances.
 - Possible new approach
 - A copy of the current ordinance was provided for City Council to review.

Mayor Krieger drew attention to those regulations already in place such as:

- City Charter Article III
 - Section 5. Nuisance: The City of Yuma shall provide for the summary abatement of any nuisance at the expense of the person creating, causing, committing or maintaining such nuisance.
 - Can apply to barking dogs
 - Section 6. Health: The City of Yuma shall compel the owner or occupant of the building or grounds to remove dirt, rubbish, weeds or other debris.....
 - Section 7. Disease: The City of Yuma shall have the power by ordinance to provide regulations which may be necessary and expedient for the preservation of health and the suppression of disease within the City.
- The City has sufficient means to address animal control based on current regulations.

Wilkinson stated the key to the issue is that the City needs to be as strict as or stricter than the state requirements and an implementation plan needs to be developed.

Discussion

- The City is not asking HSOY to increase its level of service, but to continue its previous level of service.
- Yuma County is responsible for rabies control and stray dogs per state law.
- Funding was provided to the HSOY to provide services within the City.
 - Some issues are not being properly addressed such as:
 - Cats and feral cats
 - Frequently, barking dog calls are being handled by Yuma Police Department (YPD) officers.
 - YPD responds to barking dog calls during the night and early morning hours.
 - ◆ HSOY is down or with limited staff between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
 - ◆ Good customer service
- The City must be cautious to avoid creating ordinances that will not be enforced, which has been the case with animal sales and bicycle helmets.
- The current contract between the City and HSOY with the scope of services is available.
- Some licensing components could be incorporated in to online billing and customer service.

Shawn Smith Executive Director of HSOY, presented the following information:

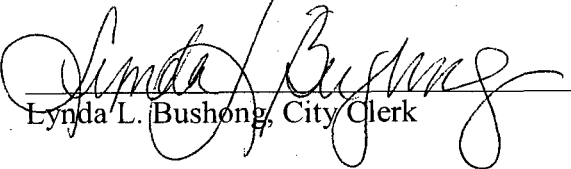
- Contract amount has decreased since 2008
 - \$495,000 for fiscal year 2008-2009
 - \$457,000 for fiscal year 2009-2010
 - \$400,000 for fiscal year 2010-2011
- Operating costs are increasing
 - Employee health insurance
 - Up keep and replacement of trucks
 - Unpredictable factors such as fuel
- Contract with Yuma County remains the same as last year at \$480,000.
 - HSOY retains portion of licensing fees
 - Licensing revenues have grown from \$73,000 to \$190,000 per year, which has funded additional personnel.
- HSOY took in 2,900 dogs and responded to 6,000 calls (25 calls were for dog bites) last year.
- The 1982 City Audit illustrated:
 - Kenneling cost
 - Standard rate 1982:\$8.43
 - Standard rate 2010:\$42.00
 - At standard rate, the City's kenneling costs alone last year would have been \$660,000.
 - The City contract does not itemize service cost
- HSOY can continue the contract for \$457,000.
 - Reluctant to compromise quality of services based on the contact allocation.
- HSOY just opened a low cost spay/neuter clinic.

II. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA OF MAY 19, 2010

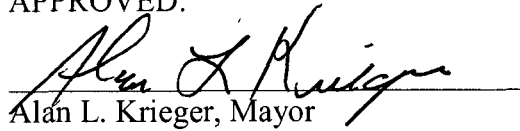
Beeson requested for a presentation on Resolution R2010-30 Issuance of Bonds. **Wicks** agreed to do so.

III. ADJOURNMENT/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion (Beeson/Mendoza): To adjourn to Executive Session. Voice vote: **adopted** 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.


Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:


Alan L. Krieger, Mayor

